

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A portable refrigeration apparatus, comprising:
a base defining an open interior cavity;
a food container configured to be removably disposed within the interior cavity of the base; and
an electric refrigeration unit operably associated with the base for cooling and circulating air such that the food container is cooled;
wherein the base and food container are arranged such that cool air is prevented from entering into or passing over the food container; and
wherein an upper portion of the food container engages with an upper portion of the base to form a seal to prevent cool air from passing therebetween.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the food container is configured to be removably disposed within the interior cavity of the base in a generally sealed relationship therewith to trap the cool air therebetween.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the base is generally concave and includes an outer wall and an inner wall spaced from the outer wall to permit air flow therebetween.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the inner wall includes apertures for permitting cool air to flow therethrough and onto an outer surface of the food container.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein a first portion of the inner wall includes air outlet apertures and a second portion of the inner wall, spaced from the first portion, includes air inlet apertures.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 1, wherein an upper lip of the food container sealingly engages an upper lip of the base.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, including a lid removably disposable over the food container.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the lid is adapted to sealingly engage with either the food container or the base so as to generally prevent air from entering the food container.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the base is insulated.

11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the food container is compartmentalized to accommodate different food items.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the refrigeration unit comprises a compressor, a cooling coil coupled to the compressor and a fan for circulating cool air.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the refrigeration unit comprises a thermoelectric couple device.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, including a temperature control mechanism coupled to the refrigeration unit.

15.- 20 (Canceled)

21. (New) A portable refrigeration apparatus, comprising:
a base defining an open interior cavity;

a food container configured to be removably disposed within the interior cavity of the base;
a lid removably disposable over the food container; and
an electric refrigeration unit operably associated with the base for cooling and circulating air such that the food container is cooled;
wherein the base and food container are arranged such that cool air is prevented from entering into or passing over the food container.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the food container is configured to be removably disposed within the interior cavity of the base in a generally sealed relationship therewith to trap the cool air therebetween.

23. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the base is generally concave and includes an outer wall and a inner wall spaced from the outer wall to permit air flow therebetween.

24. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein at least a portion of the inner wall includes apertures for permitting cool air to flow therethrough and onto an outer surface of the food container.

25. (New) The apparatus of claim 24, wherein a first portion of the inner wall includes air outlet apertures and a second portion of the inner wall, spaced from the first portion, includes air inlet apertures.

26. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein an upper portion of the food container engages with an upper portion of the base to form a seal to prevent cool air from passing therebetween.

27. (New) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein an upper lip of the food container sealingly engages an upper lip of the base.

28. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the lid is adapted to sealingly engage with either the food container or the base so as to generally prevent air from entering the food container.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the base is insulated.

30. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the food container is compartmentalized to accommodate different food items.

31. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the refrigeration unit comprises a compressor, a cooling coil coupled to the compressor and a fan for circulating cool air.

32. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the refrigeration unit comprises a thermoelectric couple device.

33. (New) The apparatus of claim 21, including a temperature control mechanism coupled to the refrigeration unit.

34. (New) A portable refrigeration apparatus, comprising:
a base defining an open interior cavity;
a food container configured to be removably disposed within the interior cavity of the base; and
an electric refrigeration unit operably associated with the base for cooling and circulating air such that the food container is cooled;
wherein the food container is compartmentalized to accommodate different food items; and
wherein the base and food container are arranged such that cool air is prevented from entering into or passing over the food container.

35. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the food container is configured to be removably disposed within the interior cavity of the base in a generally sealed relationship therewith to trap the cool air therebetween.

36. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the base is generally concave and includes an outer wall and an inner wall spaced from the outer wall to permit air flow therebetween.

37. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein at least a portion of the inner wall includes apertures for permitting cool air to flow therethrough and onto an outer surface of the food container.

38. (New) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein a first portion of the inner wall includes air outlet apertures and a second portion of the inner wall, spaced from the first portion, includes air inlet apertures.

39. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein an upper portion of the food container engages with an upper portion of the base to form a seal to prevent cool air from passing therebetween.

40. (New) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein an upper lip of the food container sealingly engages an upper lip of the base.

41. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, including a lid removably disposed over the food container.

42. (New) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the lid is adapted to sealingly engage with either the food container or the base so as to generally prevent air from entering the food container.

43. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the base is insulated.

44. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the refrigeration unit comprises a compressor, a cooling coil coupled to the compressor and a fan for circulating cool air.

45. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the refrigeration unit comprises a thermoelectric couple device.

46. (New) The apparatus of claim 34, including a temperature control mechanism coupled to the refrigeration unit.